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(54) OPTICAL DISK

(57) Abstract:

PURPOSE: To obtain an ultrahigh resolution reproducing optical disk capable of simultaneously enhancing sensitivity and optical contrast.

CONSTITUTION: At least a phase change material layer 3 and a reflecting layer 4 are formed on a transparent substrate 1 with formed recording pits 2 capable of optical readout in accordance with an information signal to obtain the objective optical disk. At the time of irradiation with readout light, the phase change material layer 3 is partially converted into a liq. phase in a scanning spot of the readout light to vary its reflectance. The reflecting layer 4 is especially made of a

substance selected from among a metallic element, a metalloid element, a semiconductor element and their compds. or their mixture each having  $\leq 0.2\text{J/cm.K.s}$  heat conductivity and an extinction coefft. ( $k$ ) of  $\geq 4$  (complex index of refraction to the wavelength of readout light is  $n-ik$ ) and the thickness of the layer 4 is especially regulated to  $\leq 35\text{nm}$ .

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